

619 them from retaliation on the Sei'ar, the traditional enemies of most of the Hadhramaut.

619 The men of the Manahil, Mahra, and those distant sections of the Kathiri
 601 who live up amongst the Mahra on the confines of the desert, take their
 595 mothers' names and not their fathers. Ordinarily of course Arabs call them-
 562 selves Hassan bin Muhammad for example, but these people say Hassan
 553 bin Maryam. The Manahil and the Hamumi and some of the other tribes
 are almost exclusively monogamous and the women, who in some parts are
 not veiled, are extraordinarily free. A man proposes marriage to the woman
 direct, and her father will say it is not his concern. Bride price is very high,
 but the bride brings a lot of stock with her.

711 I have not journeyed far down the Wadi Maseila on the ground during the
 last tour, though I had been invited to attend the pilgrimage to the tomb of
 the Prophet Hud. However as I had not the time to go Seiyid Bubekr took
 me on the first aerial pilgrimage, as he called it, and the beautiful tomb in
 its picturesque surroundings crowded with a record pilgrimage presented a
 great contrast to the last time my wife and I had seen it, out of season when
 172 we were travelling down the wadi to Seihut. I noticed on this occasion the
 ruins of an ancient town on the very edge of the *jol* above 'Einat, and I think
 these are about the only ruins there are in such a situation in the Hadhramaut.

368 There is perhaps no need to say more of the big towns of the wadi, Tarim,
 Seiyun, and Shibam, or of the fertile lands between them now happily all
 at peace. The famous trench system of Al Ghurfa is now disused and the
 town is open to traffic, so that cars no longer have to skirt perilously round its
 243 walls. The whole place has been green with crops, a record millet crop last
 year and a record barley crop which was being harvested when I left in April.

508 Seiyun has changed in some ways, for like Tarim it has a new landing-
 701 ground used not only by the Royal Air Force but by civil machines, and in
 567 the town itself I have an office—for I am also Resident Adviser to the Kathiri
 Sultan—and there is a newly uniformed body called the Kathiri Armed
 Constabulary recruited mainly from the Sultan's slaves. I think it is generally
 known now that these so-called slaves are in fact much more independent
 than many free men, but it may not be so well known that with the full agree-
 ment and co-operation of the Sultans steps have been taken to grant freedom
 368 to any slave who desires it. The camel park has been moved from beneath
 the palace and there preparations are being made to lay out a small garden
 surrounded by the arcade in which are the police station, the post office, and
 a small dispensary.

000 Seiyid Bubekr's house which was being built when we first visited Seiyun
 three years ago is now finished. Its architecture is, I think I may say, not
 approved of by Miss Stark, as she no doubt will tell you, but it is a remarkably
 comfortable house, and when the family is living there a very happy house
 to stay in; but for some months Seiyid Bubekr's family has preferred to
 live in another big house of the old-fashioned kind in the town. Living in
 the empty Dar es Salaam, as it is called, gave me so much the feeling that
 my wife and I once had when we spent a day or two as the only guests in an
 enormous hotel in Belgium out of season that I prefer to live in the other
 house with Seiyid Bubekr. Many are the people who have enjoyed his kindly